

National Ground Water Awareness Week is the pinnacle of NGWA's year-round effort to educate the public about proper groundwater and water well stewardship. The United States uses 349 billion gallons of freshwater daily, 79.6 billion gallons of which is groundwater, serving 90 million Americans.

NGWA is a nonprofit organization composed of more than 12,000 U.S. and international groundwater professionals including contractors, equipment manufacturers, suppliers, scientists, and engineers. The organization is dedicated to advancing groundwater knowledge. NGWA's vision is to be the leading groundwater association that advocates the responsible development, management, and use of water.

Association members are using Ground Water Awareness Week to participate in a variety of activities and events. I want to thank them for their efforts to preserve, protect, and safely utilize this most valuable resource.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TELEWORK WEEK, MARCH 5-9

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, March 5-9 was National Telework Week, a prime opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made implementing telework policy after passage of the Telework Enhancements Act of 2010.

More than 63,000 people pledged to telework last week, eliminating more than 5.7 million pounds of carbon dioxide pollution and are saving \$4.7 million in transportation expenses. As oil speculation and international uncertainty drives gas prices higher, telework becomes a more important tool for consumers to protect themselves against high gas prices.

Although private sector employers like AT&T and IBM pioneered telework, federal agencies are catching up under the direction of the Telework Enhancements Act. More than 95% of the 63,000 people who pledged to telework are federal employees. Agencies like USDA are making great progress expanding telework participation, while agencies like GSA and PTO already are saving taxpayer money by avoiding construction of new offices through use of telework arrangements.

As a result of my amendment to the Telework Enhancement Act, all agencies must incorporate telework into their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), which will better prepare us to respond to a natural disaster or terrorist attack. During the record blizzards two years ago, federal employees saved taxpayers \$30 million in a single week by continuing to work through telework arrangements even while the streets and Metro were closed by several feet of snow. By expanding telework participation in other agencies we can create additional cost savings and ensure that the Federal Government keeps operating even in the event of a terrorist attack.

These success stories are only possible because of partnerships between federal agencies, advocacy groups like the Telework Exchange and the Partnership for Public Service, and private sector companies which provide the technology to enable telework. I applaud

the collective effort of agencies, advocates, and contractors to implement telework policies. Telework will be one of the essential workforce management tools for recruiting the next generation of federal employees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating federal agencies and our private-sector partners on the progress being made to expand the use of telework. National Telework Week offers us an opportunity to highlight the success of these efforts and to expand upon them.

THE PASSING OF REPRESENTATIVE DONALD PAYNE

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting the attached statement by World Food Program USA regarding the passing of our good friend and colleague, Congressman Payne.

STATEMENT FROM RICK LEACH, PRESIDENT AND CEO, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM USA, ON THE PASSING OF REPRESENTATIVE DONALD PAYNE

The entire staff and board of directors of World Food Program USA mourn the passing of Representative Donald Payne of New Jersey. Representative Payne was a tireless champion on behalf of the world's poorest, hungriest people, and his presence and efforts within the U.S. Congress will be missed.

As Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa, Representative Payne played a key role in pushing forward U.S. policies to respond to the protracted crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan, as well as across the African continent. He was one of five members of Congress to accompany President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton on a tour of six African nations, and he headed a presidential mission aimed at finding solutions to the political and humanitarian crisis in Rwanda. Due to his record of outstanding service, Representative Payne was chosen by President George W. Bush to serve for two terms as a congressional delegate to the United Nations from 2003-2007.

Representative Payne travelled many times to countries in the worst throes of humanitarian crises, lending his voice and wielding his influence to help those people most in need. His many years of steadfast support, dedication, and hard work have improved the lives of millions of people in Africa, the United States, and across the globe. He will be remembered for all that he has contributed to the rights, well being, dignity and spirit of people across the world. He was a true humanitarian hero.

TRIBUTE TO WILLYE DENNIS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, to a remarkable woman who will be terribly missed: my heart and prayers go out to the family and friends of the Honorable Willye Dennis. Willye Dennis was a good friend, a political pioneer, a dedicated public servant, and an ardent fighter for the African American community in

Jacksonville. An outstanding state House representative and 10 year NAACP—Jacksonville President, she will always be remembered and in the heart of the entire Jacksonville community.

Known as a fearless warrior, Ms. Dennis was a formidable political force who influenced a generation of city leaders. Inspired by her strong belief in equal opportunity, she was a true civil rights champion, who went on to greatly influence the community as a whole, as well as the Duval County school system.

Ms. Dennis lived her entire life in Jacksonville. She studied at Old Stanton High School and was later hired by the city's library system in 1951. She earned a bachelor's degree from Clark College in Atlanta, a Master's in Library Science from Atlanta University, and completed her Doctoral studies in Public Administration at Nova University in South Florida.

While she continued to work for the library until 1980, Mrs. Dennis incorporated her own business, Fam-Co Learning and Development Inc. in 1978. And by 1992, the company was labeled one of America's 10 best daycare centers by Child magazine.

As branch president of the Jacksonville—NAACP from 1984 until 1994, she dedicated a great deal of her time pursuing a court case to complete the desegregation of the Duval County school system. Largely because of her efforts, the school system negotiated an agreement in 1990 that led to the creation of the county's magnet school system.

In the words of one of Jacksonville's finest civil rights activists, Mr. Rodney Hurst, "she (Willye Dennis) was a tireless worker . . . committed to the NAACP . . . she was one of those brave, unsung she-roses that are not given the recognition they deserve."

I will always remember her strong will power, relentless drive, intelligence and energy. And as one of Jacksonville's civil rights pioneers, I am certain that she will serve as an inspiration for others to follow her footsteps in the future.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND CANON THOMAS WILSON STEARLY LOGAN, SR.

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished member of the Philadelphia clergy who is achieving a milestone that is worthy of recognition and admiration in the people's House.

The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr., will celebrate his 100th birthday on March 19, and even more remarkable, he is still going strong.

Reverend Canon Logan's career as one of Philadelphia's most prominent and honored Episcopal ministers is highlighted by 44 years as Rector of Calvary Northern Liberties Church and its predecessors, St. Michael's and Calvary Monumental churches. Since reaching mandatory retirement age in 1984, he continues to be active and holds the title of Rector Emeritus. He remains on the go, known by all for his lively and friendly manner and a voice that commands attention.

Reverend Canon Logan's life has been one of accomplishment from his birth in Philadelphia in 1912, the son of a minister and a